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COUNTRY East Germany

TO: Military Information from Oranienburg

25X1X EVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                      25X1C

25X1C DATE OF CONTENT                     

DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 26 February 1953

REFERENCES                     

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     

REMARKS                     

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- ☐ 1. From 20 to 26 January 1953, no troops arrived at, or moved out of, the former concentration camp at Sachsenhausen near Oranienburg. All quarters were lighted at nightfall. This observation was confirmed by the architect of the Eberswalde special construction bureau. No German laborers were employed at the Sachsenhausen camp during the time of observation. All work to be done was performed by Soviet troops. At 9:40 a.m. on 25 January, 4 platoons of 50 soldiers each wearing red-bordered black epaulets and belonging to the tank unit Chuk marched from Sachsenhausen to the Schuetzenhaus. They returned at 12:45 p.m. The Parkin driving school engaged in training daily from 8:30 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the terrain.

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- ☐ 2. From 17 to 20 January, the former concentration camp and Panzerschule in Oranienburg were still occupied by about 3,000 troops. Soldiers were observed wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, motor transport or signal insignia and blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia and black-bordered crimson epaulets. The troops were engaged in close-order drill and motor vehicle maintenance duty. Other troops practiced carbine firing with live ammunition on the troop training grounds north of the concentration camp.

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- ☐ 3. At 11 a.m. on 2 January, 5 T-34 tanks, 4 rocket launchers, 1 AT gun of about 50-mm and 1 truck with about 20 soldiers moved out of the Oranienburg concentration camp toward Zehdenick.                      Another column driving toward Zehdenick was noticed at about noon. It included tanks                     , 2 trucks with field kitchens, 1 tank truck and 2 trucks, each with about 30 soldiers. At about 10 a.m. on 6 January, 3 trucks towing AT guns, 1 x 76.2-mm AA gun and 1 truck with a field kitchen left the concentration camp toward Zehdenick. Another truck carried billeting equipment, boxes and lumber.

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[REDACTED]

Driving school vehicles [REDACTED] drove toward Zehdenick on 6 and 7 January, loaded with billeting equipment. The tank units that left on 2 January returned during the night of 11 January. They entered the camp through the rear gate.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. The report indicates no changes in the occupation by units of the 25th Tank Div of the concentration camp, the Panzer Schule, also called SS Kaserne, in Oranienburg. See [REDACTED] It is believed that small detachments of these units started combat firing practice at the Templin troop training grounds after early January 1953. Respective information from Templin has been obtained but not before mid-January. According to the present report the following units of the division in the above mentioned installations were identified: the 162d Tank Regt with Colonel Chuk (fnu) as commanding officer or supply officer; an unidentified

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[REDACTED]

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